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CONFIRMATION NO. APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 09/780,977 02/09/2001 Rao S. Bezwada ETH1533 3155 EXAMINER 27777 11/25/2003 7590 RECEIVED PHILIP S. JOHNSON WEBMAN, EDWARD J **JOHNSON & JOHNSON** ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER DEC 0 1 2003 ONE JOHNSON & JOHNSON PLAZA EW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08933-7003 1617 DATE MAILED: 11/25/2003

J&J PAT. DKT. SECTION

Kesponse Due 12.25.03

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

Application/Control Number: 09/780,977

Art Unit: 1617

The reply filed on 11/13/02 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): Applicants did not elect a barrier form from claims 19-23. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given **ONE** (1) **MONTH or THIRTY** (30) **DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Regarding crosslinked polymers, the election of species should have recited claims 16-18 rather than 16-18 as directed to such polymers. Thus, as applicants assert, the claims wherein crosslinking is unspecified number 1-15, 19-23 rather than 1-14, 19-23.

The examiner requests copies of all the references cited on PTO form 1449, paper #2, filed 2/9/01.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edward Webman whose telephone number is (703) 308-4432. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 9 Am 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, S. Padmanabhan can be reached on (703) 305-1877. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3592 for regular communications and (703) 305-3592 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.

Webman/LR January 28, 2003

> EDWARZ J. WEBMAN PRIMARY EXAMINER GROUP 1500